

The NEUROPTERA are represented by two species of *Libellula*.

Of DIPTERA there are only a few species, but the paucity of number is compensated for by the extraordinary appearance of one species. The head is transverse, quite twice as broad as the body, and pointed at each end, having much the shape of the "celiman" of the Australian aboriginal. The eyes occupy the pointed ends of this wonderfully-shaped head. This insect in no way resembles, and must not be confounded with the well known genus *Diopsis*, which has its eyes on a long peduncle. It belongs to the genus *Zygothrica*, of Wiedemann, a genus of which very little seems to be known except that the curiously shaped head is an ornament of the males only, the head of the female being rounded.

This brief summary of the Entomological productions of New Ireland will give the naturalist a general idea of the character of its fauna. Mr. Cockerell made the collection which I have now summarised in the period of a few months, and from a very small portion of the island. What may we not expect from a thorough and complete search of that and the adjacent island of New Britain? New Ireland extends for nearly 150 miles from north to south; and New Britain, 350 miles from east to west, and both of these islands, with the small exceptions of the collections made at Port Praslin by the Coquille in 1823, and Mr. Cockerell in 1875-1876, present an untouched and certainly a very promising and rich field for the naturalist and collector.

Notes on *Lævicardium Beechei* — by JOHN BRAZIER, C.M.Z.S.,
Cor. Mem. Roy. Soc., Tas.

LEVICARDIUM BEECHEI.

Cardium Beechei, Adams and Reeve. Zool. Moll. Voyage of H.M.S. Samarang, 1850, p. 78, pl. 22, fig. 12.

Hab. Sooloo Sea, between the island of Borneo and Mindanao, 40 fathoms; also, Yellow Sea at one of the islands of the Corean

Archipelago (Adams and Reeve). Percy Island, North-east Coast of Australia (Mr. F. Strange). Cape Grenville, north-east Australia, 25 fathoms, sandy mud bottom, one valve found (Brazier). Darnley Island, Torres Straits, 20-30 fathoms, sandy bottom, one valve found (Brazier). Bulari Passage, New Caledonia, fine living specimen found in the stomach of a Schnapper, *Pagrus unicolor*—by Monsieur Fabre, the pilot stationed there.

This interesting *Cardium* is, without exception, the most striking and distinct from any hitherto known that can well be imagined. In colour it is of a fine rose tint, with the following singular and peculiar soft velvety appearance, the effect of its being minutely decussated with concentric and radiating striæ, and covered with an exquisitely thin, shining, horny epidermis, disposed in fine concentric cords, abruptly terminating at the posterior area. The posterior portion, accordingly destitute of epidermis, is very thickly rayed with ribs of short compressed spines, as if the delicately-clad surface of the shell had been thus far ploughed up as it were into furrows; a little of the epidermis is removed by the action of being in the stomach of the Schnapper. The specimen I show to-night was sent to me for my inspection and nomenclature by my kinsman, Mr. R. C. Rossiter, who has the finest collection of New Caledonian shells.

There were two fine living specimens in the Australian Museum some years ago, dredged by the late Mr. F. Strange, at Percy Island; one specimen was purloined by a gentleman who at one time held an appointment in that institution.

Description of a New Species of *Halmaturus*, from New Ireland—
by E. PIERSON RAMSAY, Curator of the Australian Museum,
Sydney.

HALMATURUS BROWNII. NEW SPECIES.

THE whole of the upper surface, the chin and a stripe on either side from the angle of the mouth to the cheek, the outer portion